

1979

Proposal for a Masters of Arts in English

University of Texas at Tyler

TEXAS EASTERN UNIVERSITY
TYLER, TEXAS

PROPOSAL FOR A
MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE
IN
ENGLISH

SUBMITTED TO THE COORDINATING BOARD,
TEXAS COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
JULY 1979

PROPOSAL FOR
MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN ENGLISH

I. INTRODUCTION

Texas Eastern University was authorized by acts of the Sixty-Second Legislature, Regular Session, 1971, to be a degree-granting, upper-level institution. The University was authorized to grant baccalaureate and master's degrees.

The purpose of this document is to request approval from the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, for Texas Eastern University to grant the Master of Arts degree. This request is one of only three submitted by Texas Eastern University after careful consideration of previous and prospective departmental enrollment, inquiries from students and the general public, qualifications of faculty in the departments concerned, and the estimated cost to the institution.

The purpose of the program is to prepare students to teach English on the elementary, secondary, and junior-college levels; to offer additional training and advanced degrees to currently-employed teachers; and to provide an opportunity for other interested persons to extend their liberal education.

Essentially traditional in nature, the program emphasizes instruction in the following areas: (1) grammar and history of the language; (2) composition; (3) English literature; (4) American literature; and (5) continental literature.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROGRAM

1. *What is the title and nature of the proposed degree program?*

Master of Arts degree with a major in English.

2. *List the course offerings to comprise the program. Which of these courses will be new ones?*

EXISTING COURSES:

English 5310 Masters of English Literature

5315 Studies in the English Renaissance

5320 Shakespeare

5321 Studies in English Neoclassical Literature

5325 Studies in Victorian Literature

5340 Masters of American Literature

5346 Studies in American Literature Through the
Romantic Period

5350 Studies in American Literary Realism

5375 Literary Criticism

5380 Advanced Grammar and Linguistics

5381 Children's Literature: Preschool through Adolescence

5386 The Modern European Novel

NEW COURSES NEEDED:

English 5305 Chaucer and Middle English Literature

5323 Studies in Romanticism

5355 Studies in Twentieth-Century American Literature

5370 Studies in Classical Literature

5385 History of the English Language

English 5390 Studies in Composition

5391 Studies in Creative Writing

5395 Bibliography and Methods of Research

5396 Thesis

Humanities

5310 Studies in the History of Ideas

5315 Studies in Western Intellectual Culture

3. *Outline a semester-by-semester curriculum for the proposed program, if applicable.*

Not applicable.

4. *What special requirements are included in the degree plan? If a graduate degree is contemplated, is a thesis or dissertation required? If not, what will be substituted? Describe any innovative change in degree requirements.*

Special requirements are:

- a. M.A. With Thesis: Thirty hours of course work and six hours of thesis, with a minimum grade-point average of 3.0.
M.A. Without Thesis: Thirty-six hours of course work, with a minimum grade-point average of 3.0.
 - b. Successful completion of a comprehensive examination.
 - c. Twelve hours, or the equivalent, of a foreign language.
5. *Is the proposed program entirely new to the institution? Is it an extension of a minor field? If so, give the number of students minoring in the program during the last three years.*

The program is not entirely new to the institution, since we currently offer twelve graduate courses in English in support of the graduate program in interdisciplinary studies, the Master of Arts in reading, and the Master of Arts in early childhood education. Primary support is given to the interdisciplinary studies program.

The M.A. in English is an extension of a minor program in the sense that the Department of Literature and Languages has been offering graduate courses in support of the interdisciplinary studies program, which allows students to select English as one of three primary fields of study.

The number of students who have enrolled in the interdisciplinary studies program with English as a field of study is as follows:

1976-77 -- 30
1977-78 -- 35
1978-79 -- 47

6. *How many similar programs are offered elsewhere in Texas, and where? What is the nearest institution offering a similar program?*

According to Academic Degree Programs Inventory Public and Private Senior Colleges and Universities of Texas published in May, 1976, by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, 35 Texas colleges and universities offer master's degrees in English. Included in this total are such public institutions as East Texas State University, Midwestern State University, North Texas State University, Sam Houston State University, Southwest Texas State University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Sul Ross State University, Corpus Christi State University, Texas A&M University, Texas Southern University, Texas Woman's University, and the University of Texas at Austin.

The nearest institution to Texas Eastern University offering a master's degree in English is Stephen F. Austin State University.

7. *Describe current manpower needs for graduates of the program. Also, describe how the proposed program strengthens the total academic program of the institution.*

It is difficult to determine precisely what professional positions are available for persons holding an M.A. in English, because such persons traditionally go into a variety of fields, including elementary, secondary, and higher education; journalism; communications; advertising; social work; theology; law; business; and government. Although in the last several years much has been made of the paucity of jobs in the teaching field, the fact remains that there is a tremendous turnover of jobs in the teaching field, especially in English, which is taught on all levels, from kindergarten to graduate school. Moreover, current proposals for competency examinations for teachers and students will probably increase the demand for English teachers. It should also be noted that the majority of our students will be currently employed teachers seeking an advanced degree. Some students, of course, seek advanced degrees for their own personal satisfaction, without regard to professional employment or advancement.

The proposed program will strengthen the institution by offering a systematic course of study in a highly beneficial area of graduate education not currently a part of Texas Eastern's general academic program. The program will also provide a greater variety of literature and language courses; stimulate the judicious growth of library holdings; and increase instructional expertise on both the under-graduate and graduate levels.

8. *Has the proposed program been approved by the institution's governing board? Give date of action.*

The Board of Regents of Texas Eastern University approved the proposed program on

III. PROJECTED ENROLLMENT

9. *Project the enrollment for the proposed program for the next five years. Explain the basis for this projection. Include majors and minors in separate columns.*

YEAR	MAJORS	MINORS*
1980-81	7	40
1981-82	10	43
1982-83	13	46
1983-84	16	49
1984-85	19	52

*"Minors" refers to students enrolled in the graduate program in interdisciplinary studies who select English as one of their fields of study.

Basis for projections: 1) As of November, 1978, there were twenty-four students enrolled in the interdisciplinary program who selected English as a first field of study and twenty-three who selected English as a second or third field of study. This indicates a healthy interest in English on the part of our graduate students. 2) Over the past several years we have had a steady increase in the number of undergraduate English majors, who now number twenty-eight. 3) We have had numerous inquiries concerning an M.A. in English from undergraduates, graduates, and non-students. 4) Overall enrollment at TEU has increased at a steady rate over the past six years. 5) Enrollment at area junior colleges, notably Tyler Junior College, has increased steadily over the past few years. 6) The population of Smith County and surrounding counties has been increasing significantly over the past few years.

10. *Describe the likely source of students who will enroll in this program. (Will they come from existing programs or will they be attracted to the institution to enroll in the proposed program?)*

For the first two or three years, most degree candidates will come from the existing interdisciplinary studies program. Thereafter, enrollment will consist primarily of graduates of our B.A. English program and other persons who are attracted to the institution by the proposed program. Although some persons from the general public will be attracted to the English M.A. program--as they have been to the interdisciplinary studies program--most of those attracted to the institution by the proposed program will undoubtedly come from the ranks of currently-employed English, language, and language arts teachers (elementary through junior college) in the Tyler-Longview-Athens area. This group is one of the largest groups of teachers in East Texas.

IV. FACULTY

11. Give the number of persons presently on the faculty who will be most directly involved in the proposed program. List name, rank, highest degree, present course load, and estimated course load in the proposed program for each. Do present faculty meet minimal criteria for the requested program?

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>HIGHEST DEGREE HELD</u>	<u>PRESENT COURSE LOAD</u>	<u>PROPOSED PROGRAM</u>
Anderson, Roger K.	Assistant Professor of English	Ph.D.	12	3
*Glascock, Janice D.	Associate Professor of Spanish	Ph.D.	12	3
Hart, J. Paxton	Professor of English	Ph.D.	12	3
Smith, F. Lannom	Professor of English	Ph.D.	9	3

*Will teach courses in grammar and linguistics, children's literature, and humanities.

12. Calculate the present student-faculty ratio in the subject matter fields(s) or department(s) in which the proposed program will be offered. (Divide full-time equivalent students by full-time equivalent faculty.) Also give the average teacher-student ratio in the courses given by the department (planned number of students per class).

The full-time-equivalent student to full-time-equivalent faculty ratio for the fall semester, 1978, was 12.22:1.00. Since Texas Eastern University is an upper-level institution, the ratio uses only junior, senior, and graduate student full-time equivalents. During the fall semester, 1978, the average undergraduate class size was 13.18, and the average graduate class size was 10.67. The planned number of students per class for the university is 18 for undergraduate and 10 for graduate classes.

13. *Project the need for new faculty required for the proposed program for the next five years. If the teaching responsibilities for the proposed program will be absorbed in part or in whole by the present faculty, describe how this will be done.*

Projected growth (undergraduate and graduate) of the Department of Literature and Languages during the next five years will require the addition of two new faculty members. Each faculty member in the department will normally teach one graduate course per semester. Needs of the graduate program will account for approximately one-fourth of the total new faculty required during the next five years.

1980-81 Assistant or Associate Professor of English
 1981-82
 1982-83
 1983-84
 1984-85 Assistant or Associate Professor of English

14. *Will acquisition of new faculty for the program require an additional outlay of funds? Explain in detail.*

The addition of new faculty will require additional funds, as indicated below. Needs of the graduate program will account for approximately one-fourth of the figure.

1980-81 Assistant or Associate Professor
 Salary -- \$14,000-\$17,000
 And other expenses normally associated with the addition of a new faculty member.

1984-85 Assistant or Associate Professor
 Salary - \$15,000-\$18,500
 And other expenses normally associated with the addition of a new faculty member.

15. *Describe the involvement of the faculty, present and projected, in research, extension, correspondence, and other activities related to the proposed program. Will this program decrease or increase the course load of present faculty?*

Faculty research efforts, which are reflected in speeches and published and unpublished papers, are concentrated in the following areas:

Dr. Roger K. Anderson	Modern English and Continental Fiction
Dr. Janice D. Glascock	Modern Hispanic Literature
Dr. J. Paxton Hart	Eighteenth Century English Literature and Chaucer and Middle English Literature
Dr. F. Lannom Smith	Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Victorian Literature

This program will not increase the course load as defined by semester credit hours taught. It will, however, require more scholarly preparation on the part of the faculty members involved.

V. LIBRARY

16. *Are present library holdings in relevant fields adequate to begin the proposed program? How will the library have to be improved to meet program needs in the next four years? (Please explain need for books, periodicals, reference books, primary source materials, etc.) What are your institutional surpluses or deficiencies in holdings as measured by the Clapp-Jordan formula? How will approval of this program alter this situation?*

Present library holdings in relevant fields are adequate to begin the proposed program. With few exceptions, the library holds the definitive or scholarly edition of the primary works of major English and American authors, and the faculty of the Department of Literature and Languages has begun acquisition procedures to enhance the collection of secondary works, which is already strong. The library subscribes to most of the major literary periodicals, although the collection of more narrowly specialized journals, e.g., John Berryman Studies, needs to be strengthened. The collection includes most of the major literary and linguistic reference works appropriate to master's-level work.

The Clapp-Jordan formula applied to Texas Eastern University Library as of December 1, 1978 is

a. Basic collection required is	85,000 vols.
b. Allowance per FTE Faculty (100x70 FTE Faculty),	7,770 vols.
c. Allowance per FTE Students (15 vols. x 1166 students)	21,665 vols.
d. Allowance per undergrad major or minor field (350 vols. x 45),	17,500 vols.
e. Allowance per Master's field, when no higher degree is offered (6,000 vols. x 12 Master's),	<u>78,000 vols.</u>
Total Volumes Needed	209,935 vols.

The Library, as of December 1, 1978, had 216,484 volumes or 1.03 percent above the Clapp-Jordan formula.

Approval of the proposed program would stimulate further acquisitions. Recommendation number 6 in the library section of the recent self-study report completed for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (Standard VI) is "The University administration should seek means of obtaining greater State appropriations for an increased volume of acquisitions of print, nonprint, and hardware materials, particularly in fields with existing and/or anticipated graduate program." Recommendation number 12 is "The Library should begin immediately to accelerate graduate-level acquisitions in anticipation of the inauguration of projected new graduate areas."

17. *Do faculty and students now use libraries of other institutions? Could they do so in the proposed program? Explain in detail.*

Faculty and students have access to a number of area college and junior college libraries. Such cooperative arrangements, which are informal in nature, would apply to students in this program as well. In addition to these, public libraries in Tyler, Athens, and Longview are also available. Materials from throughout the nation are available through inter-library loan.

18. *Estimate the total expenditure for the last two complete fiscal years for library acquisitions in the departments or subject matter fields in which the proposed program would be offered, or in fields which are closely related to the proposed program.*

Conservative estimates indicate that \$13,800 was spent in the field of English during the last two years. Of this amount, approximately \$7,800 went for books, \$4,000 for journals, and \$2,000 for reference material.

19. *Project library expenditures to be budgeted annually for the next five years in supporting this program.*

Expenditures for the next five years will be approximately \$4,000 per year, or a total of \$20,000.

VI. FACILITIES

20. *Describe existing facilities that are available for the proposed program. Describe the present utilization of these facilities. What new facilities will be needed in the near future? Specify what special facilities and equipment will be needed and estimate their cost. From what source do you anticipate obtaining needed facilities and equipment? Will the approval of this program result in planning for the addition of new facilities?*

Texas Eastern University has a new campus with approximately 300,000 gross square feet of building space located on 200 acres of land in southeast Tyler, Texas. By the fall of 1980, Part A of the Learning Resources Center will be completed, which will add 72,000 gross square feet to the physical plant. Current and projected facilities will be more than adequate to house the proposed program and to accommodate student growth. The approval of this program will not result in planning for new facilities in addition to those contained in the University's Campus Plan.

VII. ADMINISTRATION OF PROPOSED PROGRAM

21. *Will the proposed program affect the administrative structure of the institution? If yes, describe how. In what department, division, school, or college will the proposed program be administered? If the program is to have inter-departmental or inter-unit administration, explain in detail.*

The proposed program will not affect the administrative structure of the institution. The program will be administered by the Chairman of the Department of Literature and Languages. No inter-departmental or inter-unit administration will be required.

VIII. ACCREDITATION

22. *Describe the requirements for accreditation, if the program is eligible to be accredited. What is the name of the accrediting agency? What will be the initial costs of accreditation and the subsequent annual costs to maintain it? Identify basic criteria for accreditation and describe how well these are presently being met.*

Since Texas Eastern University currently enjoys appropriate accreditation privileges from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the program will receive the same consideration afforded other programs at this institution.

IX. SUPPORTING FIELDS

23. *Evaluate the subject matter fields at your institution which may be considered as necessary or valuable, in support of the proposed program. Will these fields need improvement or expansion? If so, how, to what extent, and at what cost? Be specific.*

A traditional M.A. program in English requires relatively little support from other graduate programs, because such a program is not interdisciplinary in nature. Nevertheless, graduate courses in such fields as history, speech, journalism, political science, and sociology provide fine complements to course work towards the English M.A. These disciplines currently offer a variety of graduate courses in support of the interdisciplinary studies program, and all are expected to grow at a rate roughly equal to that of the institution.

X. COSTS OF PROPOSED PROGRAM

24. *Estimate the initial (first year) costs of the proposed program. If this is an extension of an ongoing program what will be the cost differential?*

The initial (first year) cost of the proposed Master of Arts degree in English will not be significantly greater than the cost resulting from existing undergraduate and graduate programs in which the Department of Literature and Languages participates. For example, most library acquisitions and faculty salary costs will be incurred even without this program because they are needed for proper support of the Bachelor of Arts degree in English and the Master of Arts in interdisciplinary studies programs already being offered. Specific costs which might not otherwise be incurred are as follows:

Faculty Salaries	\$7,500
Departmental Operating Expenses	1,000

25. *Estimate the annual cost of the program for the three years following its first year. (Use current formulas in arriving at your estimate.) Explain the rationale for your estimate. If this is an extension of an ongoing program, what will be the cost differential?*

On the basis of current formulas for faculty salaries and departmental operating expenses, the estimated annual cost of the program for the three years following its first year are:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Faculty Salaries</u>	<u>Departmental Operating Expenses</u>
1981-82	\$8,333	\$1,267
1982-83	\$9,167	\$1,333
1983-84	\$10,083	\$1,533

The above figures represent approximately one-third of the total funds generated by the graduate semester-credit-hour production. The remaining two-thirds is attributed to graduate semester-credit-hour production resulting from support of existing graduate programs.

Graduate courses in English are currently offered to support the interdisciplinary studies degree and two degrees in education. The addition of a Master of Arts degree in English would not cause a large cost differential, since most of the curriculum required by such a degree is already being offered to support existing programs.

Some additional funds would be generated by the semester-credit-hour production in other areas of cost--e.g., library, general institutional expense, and instructional administration.

26. *Departmental Costs:*

- (a) *Show the departmental operating expenditures for the last two fiscal years for the departments which will contribute significantly to the support of the proposed program.*
- (b) *How will the proposed program affect the allocation or distribution of these funds?*
- (a) The institutional budget of Texas Eastern University is defined by school rather than by department, making it difficult to respond to this question with precision. Reasonable estimates, however, of the operating funds of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences which have been spent by the Department of Literature and Languages are as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>1977-78</u>	<u>1978-79</u>
Faculty Salaries	\$97,719.00	\$103,748.00
Travel	666.00	668.00
Capital outlay	-	650.00
Other operating	400.00	400.00

The proposed program will not significantly affect the allocation or distribution of these funds. Additional costs, as shown in Question 24 above, will require an increase of those amounts in the category of "Other operating (expenses)" in the budget of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences to be spent by the Department of Literature and Languages.

27. *What additional funds for research will be needed to support the proposed program? Explain.*

Additional research funds, which would undoubtedly contribute to the effectiveness of the program, will be sought from outside funding sources as needed. Amounts will vary from year to year.

28. *How many graduate assistantships are considered desirable to begin the program? Estimate the amount of funds required for these assistantships over the next four years. What sources are available to support these assistantships? Will student-aid funds be needed for undergraduates other than those provided for all undergraduates? Explain in detail.*

Because Texas Eastern as an upper-level institution does not offer freshman and sophomore English courses, we cannot provide graduate assistants with the employment opportunities traditionally available. We do not, therefore, anticipate using graduate assistants in this program. No additional student aid funds will be needed for undergraduates.

29. *Describe briefly the sources of financial support for this program and evaluate the adequacy of funds for the inauguration and support of the program. Does the program give the indications of becoming self-supporting within three years in terms of formula-generated income?*

The anticipated sources of financial support for this program are the legislative appropriations through formula funding based upon semester credit hour production.

Projected enrollments for the proposed program indicate that the program will become self-supporting within three years in terms of formula-generated income.

30. *Add any comments which would be helpful to the Coordinating Board in evaluating this program request.*

The proposed program will be especially welcomed by a significant number of persons in East Texas whose professional and/or domestic responsibilities restrict them to the Tyler-Longview-Athens area and who consequently would otherwise not be able to pursue their education.